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**OBSERVATIONS ON THE GENUS SYMPHYNOTA, LEA.**

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BY L. S. FRIERSON.

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In 1819 Rafinesque proposed the genus *Proptera*, and the only described species placed in it by him was the *Unio alata* Say, which has thus been accepted as type of the genus ever since. Evidently unaquainted with Rafinesque's writings at the time, Dr. Lea, ten years afterwards (1829) proposed an almost identical genus, *Symphynota*, and named as type, the same shell, *Unio alatus!* (Obs. vol. 1, page 38). The genus *Symphynota* therefore is a synonym, pure and simple, and Simpson's and other's use of the name, no doubt arose from overlooking the fact that Lea originally took *U. alatus* as type. This being so, those species placed in *Symphynota* by Simpson (Synopsis 1900, pages 662-666) must be placed in the genus *Lasmigona* Rafinesque, 1831. Type *L. costata* Rafinesque (1820).

In the May (1914) NAUTILUS, page 7, I proposed the term *Simpsonaias* for *Hemilastina*. This name has been preoccupied however, and for it I propose the term *Simpsoniconcha*, in honor of Mr. C. T. Simpson.

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**VOLVIDENS, NEW GENUS.**

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BY JOHN B. HENDERSON.

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I am often puzzled by the generic names applied by authors to many of the small species of Antillean land-shells; as in the case of the Cuban "*Thysanophora*" *tichostoma* Pfr., a fairly common species of the Matanzas and Havana Provinces. So far I have never succeeded in capturing a living specimen of this and therefore cannot seek the aid of an anatomist in deter-

mining its true position with final certainty. Obviously, however, it is not a *Thysanophora*,—nor is it a *Gastrodonta*. It cannot well be a *Sagda*,—nor *Odontosagda*, yet it seems to be closely related to both. Its very prominent character of a centrally placed continuous lamella on the parietal wall I think justifies the creation of a genus to include it within the subfamily *Sagdinae*. I therefore propose for it the new genus, to be described for the present as follows:

*VOLVIDENS*, n. g.

Shell small, depressed, widely umbilicate, rather thin and shining and of *Zonites*-like texture. Aperture with an internal sharply raised lamella centrally placed on the parietal wall. Lip simple. Type: *Helix tichostoma* Pfr.

This lamella in fully adult specimens extends back about one-half whorl. Back of this it appears to have been absorbed but there are evidences of its existence from the early whorls. It differs from all the *Proserpinella* group by its lack of an apical callus.

I have not infrequently found in collections among lots of *V. tichostoma* specimens of *Strobilops hubbardi*. To the naked eye the two species appear very much alike, but they can never be confused when examined under a glass. I have seen no mention of the presence of this latter species in Cuba, but I have found it in many localities in Havana and Pinar del Rio Provinces, and it is quite likely it will be found throughout the Antilles. Cuban specimens are smaller than those from Florida, but otherwise identical.

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#### STUDIES IN NAJADES.

BY A. E. ORTMANN.

(Continued from page 34.)

Genus: SYMPHYNOTA, subgenus ALASMINOTA nov. subgen.

This new subgenus is proposed for the species: *Margaritana holstonia* Lea as type, which has been placed by Simpson